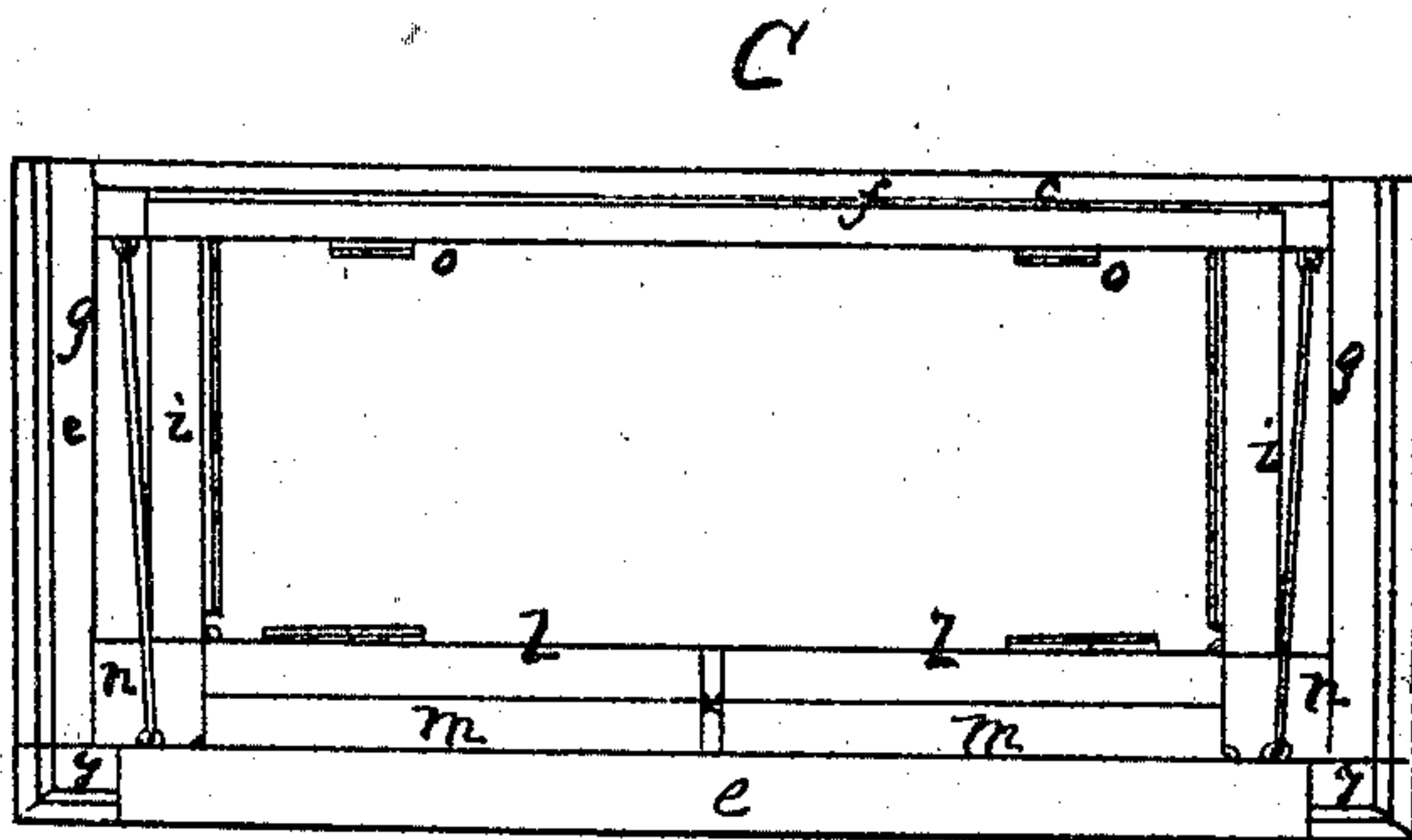
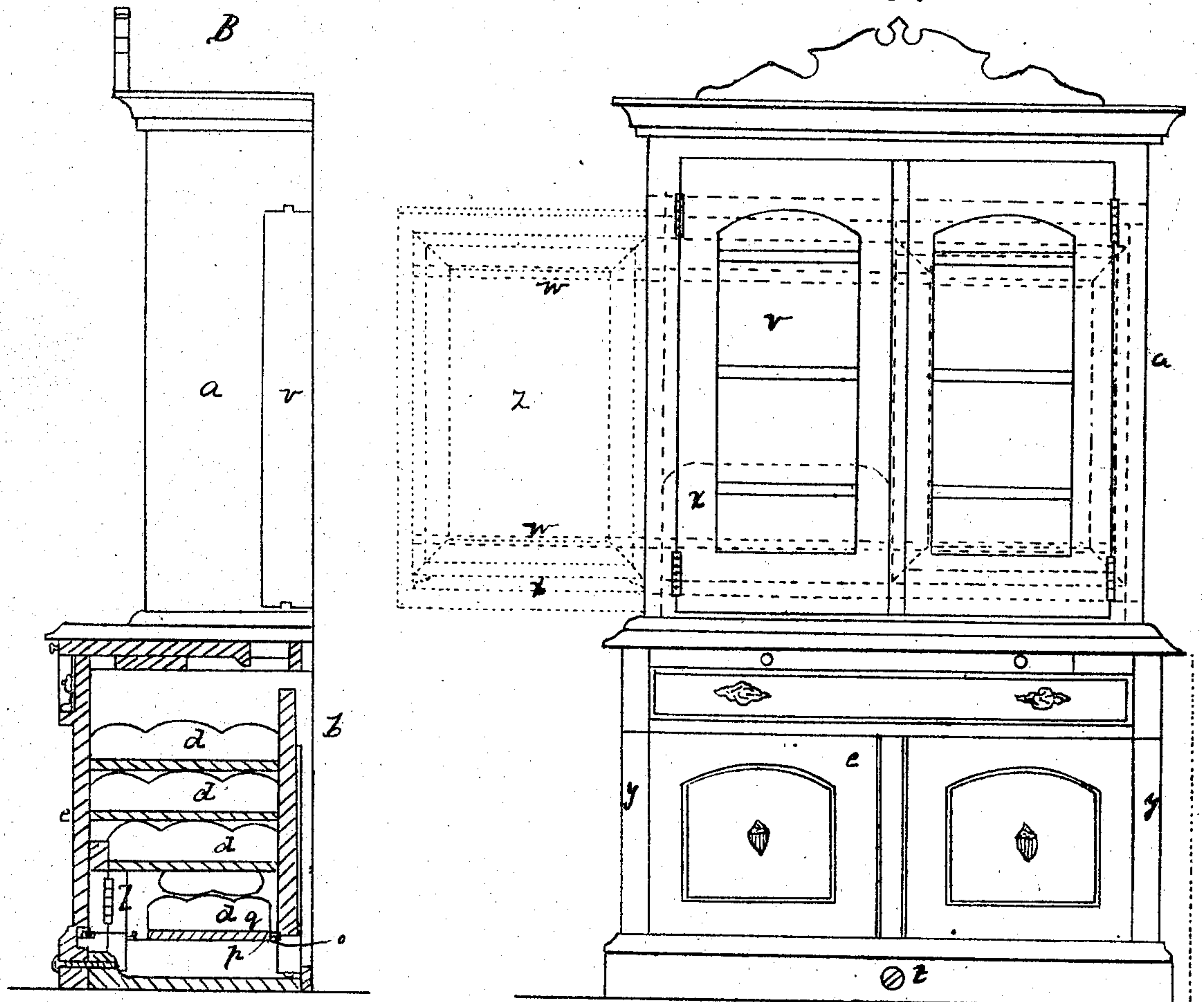


# C. F. Bowers. Secret-Bed.

Sheet 1.

N<sup>o</sup> 75,849.

Patented Mar. 24. 1868.



Witnesses.

M. W. Frothingham.  
J. B. Kidder.

Inventor.

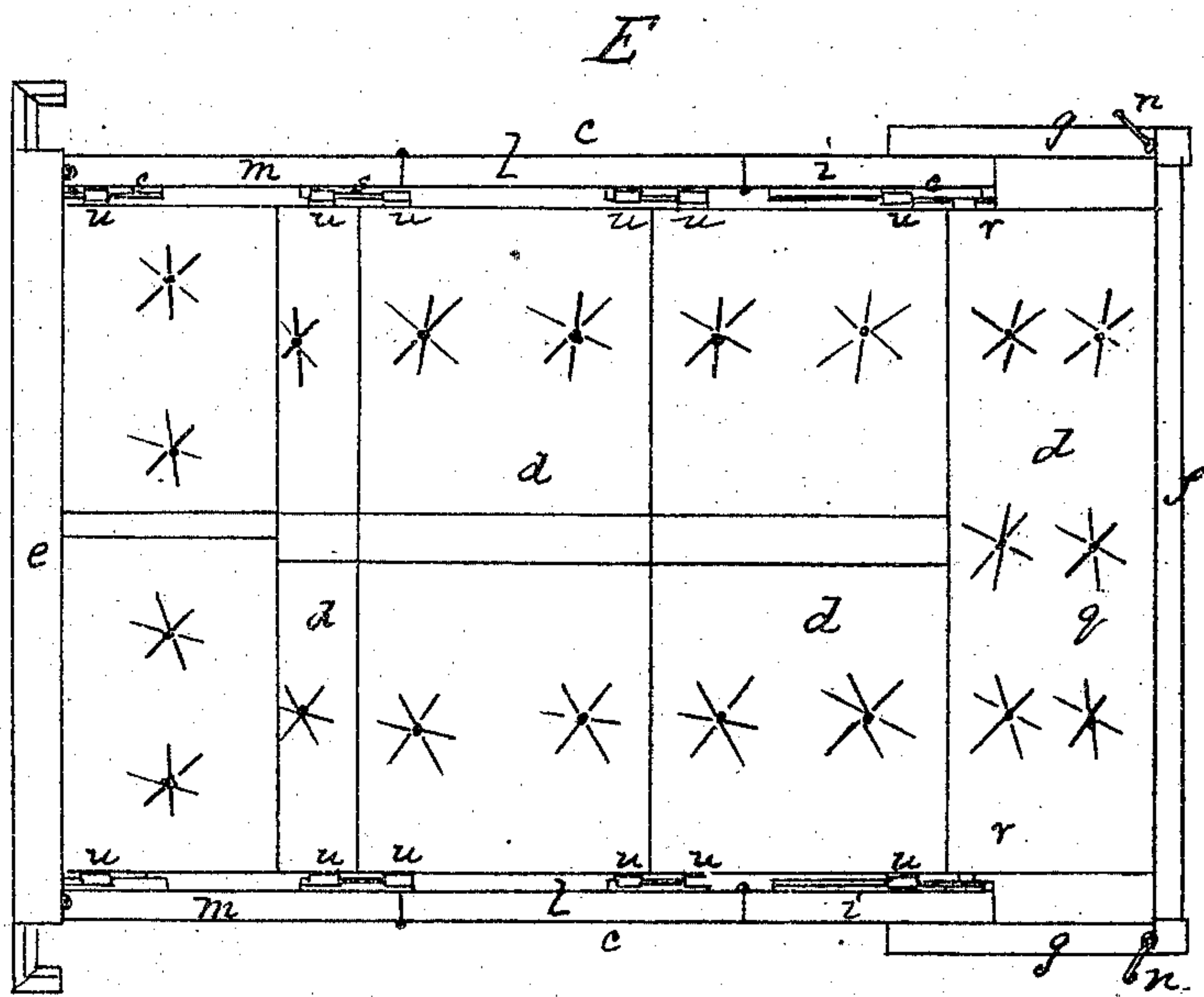
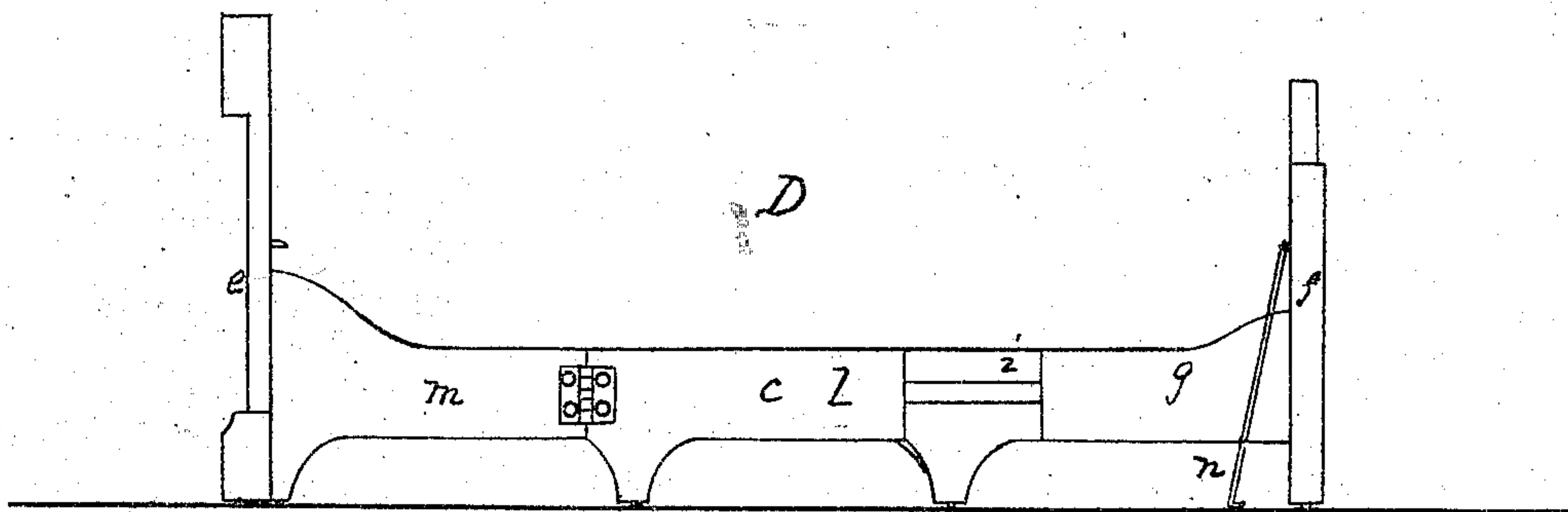
Chas. F. Bowers  
by his atty  
Crosby Halsted & Gould

*C. F. Bowers,*  
*Secret-Bed.*

Sheet. 2.

N<sup>o</sup> 75,849.

Patented Mar. 24, 1868.



Witnesses.

M. W. Frothingham.  
S. B. K. dder.

Inventor.

Chas F. Bowers  
by his attys.  
Crosby Halsted & Gould.



# United States Patent Office.

CHARLES F. BOWERS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

*Letters Patent No. 75,849, dated March 24, 1868.*

## IMPROVED SECRET BED.

*The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.*

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, CHARLES F. BOWERS, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Secret Bed; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practise it.

My invention relates to the construction of a secret bed, to be combined with a book-case, wardrobe, side-board, or article of furniture having a cupboard or space in its lower part suitable for the purpose.

I generally prefer to combine the bed with a case having book-shelves in its upper part, the bed having an extension and folding frame and a sectional mattress all concealed within the cupboard or lower part of the case.

The drawings represent a piece of furniture embodying my invention.

A shows the book-case (having a bed containing cupboard) in front elevation. B represents a view of the same, showing the book-case proper in side elevation, and the bed-cupboard in cross-section. C shows a plan of the bed-frame folded within the cupboard. D represents a side elevation, and E a plan of the extended bed. *a* denotes an ordinary book-case, constructed with shelves and swinging doors, and resting on the base, *b*, in the usual manner. The base, *b*, is made without divisions, and is preferably left open at the back, as seen at B, and contained within this base is the folding bed, bedstead, or bed-frame *c*, with the mattress-pieces or sections *d*. The head-board *e* is made as a single piece, or without division, as is also the foot-board *f*. The head-board may be formed of the front piece of the cupboard or base, *b*, as seen in the drawings, or may be a separate piece, jointed to the side-rails, in which latter case the front piece of the cupboard will constitute doors closing upon the bed when placed within the cupboard, and opening to allow withdrawal of the bed therefrom. Each side-rail of the bed-frame is made sectional in the drawings. One end, *g*, of each side-rail is shown as permanently fixed to the foot-board, or so as to be stationary with respect thereto. Each of these stationary rail-pieces has a groove in its inner surface to receive a dove-tailing tongue on the next piece, *i*, which piece also has a similar groove, *k*, receiving a similar tongue on the piece *g*, these tongues and grooves enabling the two pieces to slide together as seen at C, or to be drawn out, as seen at D and E. Next to each piece *i* is a piece, *l*, hinged thereto, and folding inwardly at right angles thereto, as seen at C, or opening out into line therewith, as seen at D E. Each piece *l* is similarly hinged to the next piece *m*, and the piece *m* to the head-board, the two pieces *l m* being brought into line, as seen at C, or folded together and against the head-board, as seen at D E.

When the parts are folded as described, they make a compact rectangular frame, into which all the pieces of the sectional bed-bottom fit, (one upon the other,) the rails and head and foot-boards being held in relative position by hooks *n*.

The bedstead-frame is held firmly in its extended position, as follows: On the lower edge of the foot-board are two catches or flanged plates *o*, into which two similar catches or plates *p*, on the end bed-piece *q*, drop, thus supporting that edge of the piece *q*. On the opposite ends of this piece *q* are friction-rolls *r*, which run in grooves *s*, in plates secured to the inner surfaces of the front sliding rail-pieces *i*, the bed-piece *q* being made a little shorter than the width between the opposite rails *i* to admit these rolls into said grooves. Each rail-piece *i l m* has similar flanged plates *s*, and each bed-piece *t*, similar flanged plates *u*, the lips or flanges *u* resting or hooking upon the plates *s*, thus supporting the bed-pieces; and, as each end of each bed-piece, in being applied to the rails, crosses a joint where the rail-pieces are hinged, the rails are thus kept out straight and rigid.

When the bed is to be folded, the end-piece *q* is left in the frame, and the pillows are placed thereon. The outer piece is then lifted and placed on top of the pillows, the two remaining bed-pieces are then placed on top of the others, the hinged rails are folded, and the rails *i g* are then slid together, the hooks *n* are fastened, and the bed is then ready to place in its case beneath the book-case, where it may be secured, if necessary, by a screw or other fastening, *t*.

It will be observed that the bed has no permanent connection with the case or piece of furniture made to contain it when closed, the bed being removed therefrom, and made up anywhere in a room, without regard to the position of the case, which only acts, with reference to the bed, as a receptacle therefor.



With the book-case there may be combined a toilet-glass, *z*, placed in a sliding frame *v*, which slides to and from the back of the book-case, and the glass itself, if desirable, sliding on rods *w*, and having a toilet-shelf, *x*, which is hinged to and folds up into the frame *v*, when the frame is slid back of the case.

To allow the foot-board and outer rails of the bedstead to slide into the case, (the case being made of a width corresponding to the width of the foot-board,) the posts *y* are hinged so as to swing out from the case, as seen by the red lines at A.

The back of the bed-receiving cupboard may be closed, but I prefer to leave it open, for ventilation of the bed.

Instead of having the end-rail stationary with respect to the adjacent foot-board, and with the next rails sliding upon them, each side of the frame may be made up of three rails, the first hinged to the foot-board, and swinging in and folding against the same, and the second hinged to the first, and the third to the second, they folding in against each other, and against the first, bringing the head and foot-boards close to each other, separated by the thickness of the three rails; or the rails may all be arranged to slide together, like the parallel rails of an extension-table.

I claim the combination, with a book-case or other upright piece of furniture, of a bed-frame having folding rails, and flanges for supporting the bed, said bed being made in sections, and so as to cross the joints in the rails, and the rails and bed being folded and arranged together within the bottom of a case *a*, when the bed is not in use, substantially as set forth.

I also claim, combining with the upper part of the case *a*, the sliding mirror, substantially as set forth.

CHAS. F. BOWERS.

Witnesses:

J. B. CROSBY,

FRANCIS GOULD.